

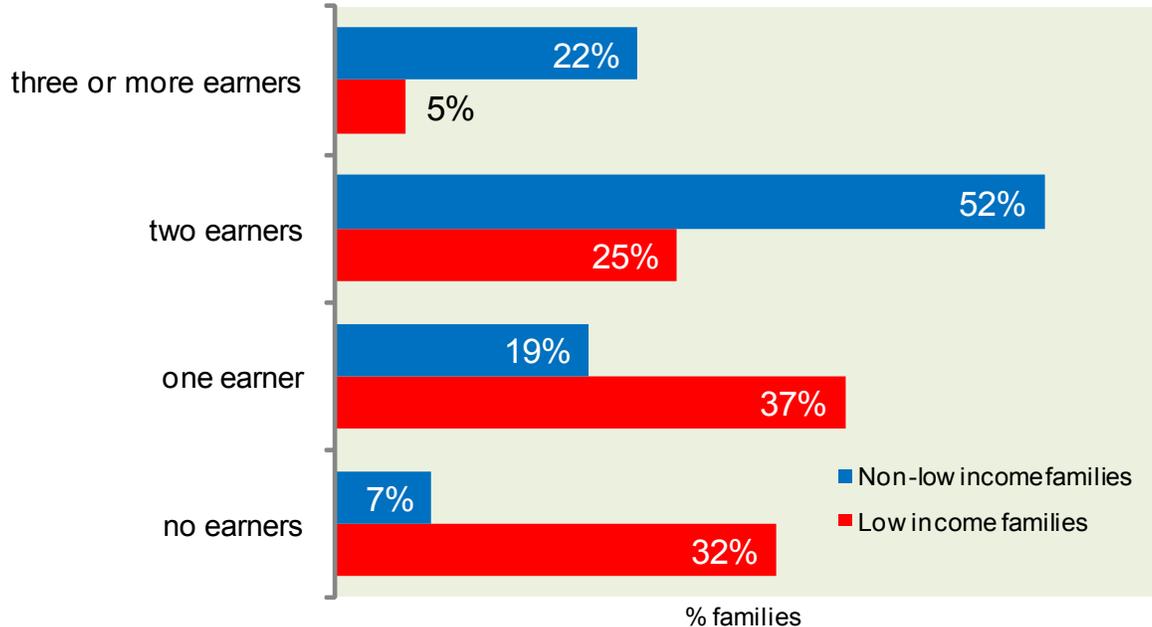
## Income Earners in Low Income Families



As reported in Community Lens #27 (March 2009), there were over 8,300 low income families in Halton in 2005, representing 6.7% of all families. Although this proportion is below the provincial average of 11.7%, the number of low income families in Halton has increased over 40% since 2000. This increase has outpaced the growth of all families by 2.5 times. With everything being equal, one can assume that families with more income earners fare better financially than those with less.

In Halton, over 90% of the non-low income families had at least one earner who earns a wage or has self-employment income. In contrast, about one-third (32%) of the low income families have no earners. Over half (52%) of non-low income families had two earners compared to 25% for low income families.

**Proportion of Families by Number of Earners  
Halton Region, 2005**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

The difference in the proportion of three or more earner families between low income and non-low income families is also significant. Non-low income families were four times more likely to have three or more earners than low income families.

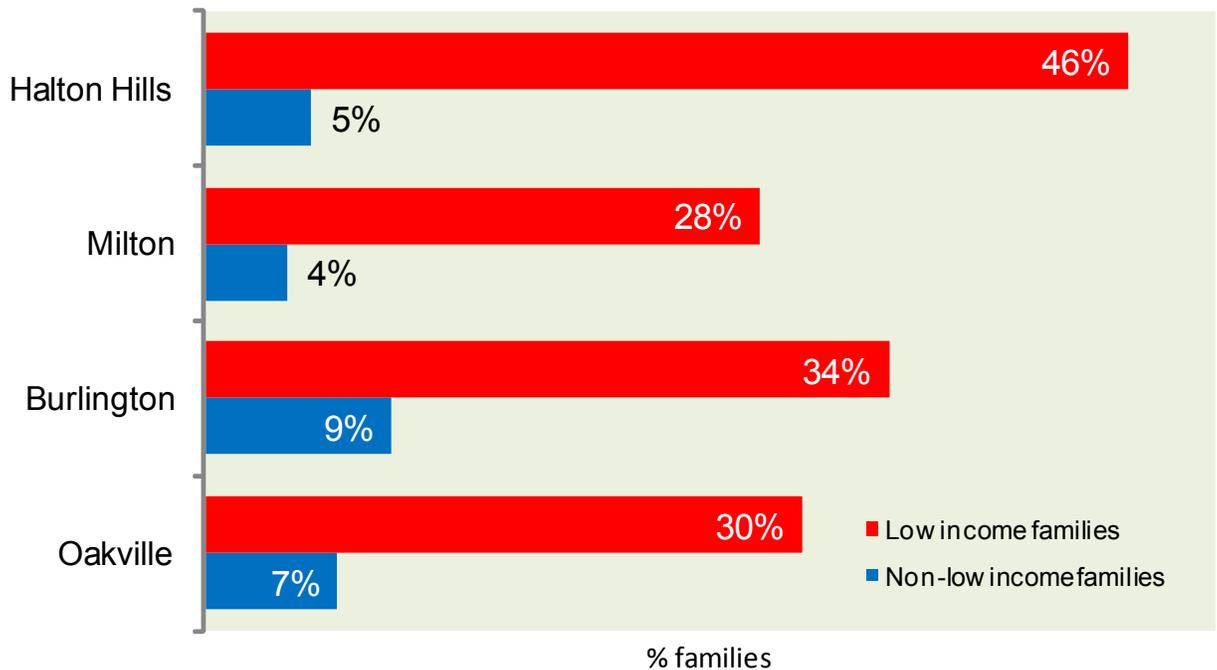
*Community Lens is prepared by Community Development Halton to disseminate and interpret important community data as it becomes available. For more information please contact us at [data@cdhalton.ca](mailto:data@cdhalton.ca) or 905-632-1975*

The distribution in the number of earners between low income and non-low income families varies geographically among the four local municipalities. Of particular interest is families with no earners.

For example, Milton's no earner low income families represented about 28% of all low income families. Its percentage is below the regional average. On the other hand, low income families in Halton Hills had the highest proportion of no earners (46%). Almost half of the low income families had to rely on other sources of income other than wages and salaries.

The percentages of no earner low income families in Burlington and Oakville were 34% and 30% respectively. Collectively, the two southern municipalities housed over 80% of all low income families with no earners in Halton.

### Proportion of Families with No Earners by Municipality Halton Region, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census